Pak Prime Minister's statement regarding Siachen

†4549. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister of Pakistan has stated that border of both the countries in Siachen glacier has been wrongly depicted in the map; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Shaukat Aziz visited India from November, 23 to 24, 2004. No such statement was made by Prime Minister of Pakistan during his visit.

(b) Does not apply.

Membership of enlarged Security Council

4550. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the top U.S. functionaries with whom he had interaction during his recent visit to that country on matters of mutual interest between the two countries; and

(b) the outcome of the discussions, particularly with regard to India's chances to get a permanent membership of the 'to be enlarged Security Council' of the United Nations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The External Affairs Minister visted Washington D.C. from 12-14 April, 2005 and met President George Bush, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley.

(b) The outcome included establishment of the Energy Dialogue, setting up of a joint Working Group on Space, agreement to accelerate Next Steps in Strategic Partnership and closer coordination on regional and global issues.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The U.S position in regard to the expansion of the UN Security Council was that rising powers like India that have shouldered global responsibilities should be accommodated in international institutions. India and the U.S. agreed to hold a dialogue on this subject and the U.S. Special Adviser on UN Reform is expected to visit India in that regard.

Fixing of maritime boundaries

4551. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether country's maritime boundaries have been finally fixed as required under international laws/conventional;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The Government of India have concluded 11 Maritime Boundary agreements with Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia and Maldives. Details of these Agreements are as follows:

(1) Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Boundary in Historic Waters between the two countries and related matters, signed on 26/28 June 1974, which came into force on 8 July 1974.

(2) Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Maritime Boundary between tne two countries in the Gulf of Mannar and the Bay of Bengal and related matters, singed on 23 March 1976, which came into force on 10 May, 1976.

(3) Supplementary agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Extension of the Maritime Boundary between the two countries in the Gulf of Mannar from position 13m to the Tri-junction point between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives (Point T), singed on 22 November, 1976, which came into force on 5 February, 1977.

(4) Agreement between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives concerning the determination of the tri-junction point between the three countries in the Gulf of Mannar, signed on 31 July, 1976, which came into force on the date of signature *i.e.*, 31 July, 1976.